

- - -

**Thomas Jefferson to James Monroe, May 14, 1798, from  
Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe Correspondence,  
Transcribed and Edited by Gerard W. Gawalt,  
Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**

- - - - -

**James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson**

Fredbg May 14 1798.

Dear Sir

Since my last I have been here attending this court, being detained by a cause of Colo. Mercer wh. was argued yesterday. I leave town to day on my way home. Your letters if you have written me any since I came here are at Charlottesville, so that they cannot be answered till after my arrival there. After perusing Pickering's objections to my advances abroad &c., comprised in my acct. I can best determine whether it will be necessary for me to proceed to Phila. or not. In consideration of the acct. along I woud. much rather not go there, since I woud. rather lose much than leave it open, & even pay the same sum three times over, subject to rectification hereafter, than accept any thing as a condensation from the admn. or any of its members. But if there is any other object the case is altered relative to wh., & the nature of the object if any such there be I shall doubtless be advised by yr. letters in Alb. when I arrive there. There is a meeting in town to day of

the merchants to address the President as other places have done Eastward of this approving his measures. There is a party in opposition of great respectability, so that the issue is uncertain. I avoid the whole of this business, having nothing to do with it; I mention

## Library of Congress

this circumstance lest being here, tho' on my duty of a nature too indispensable having two causes to argue this day before I leave town, the contrary shod. be insinuated.

RC (Jefferson Papers, Library of Congress).